

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method for controlling house dust mites and bedmites, comprising the step of:

- (i) incorporating into a manmade fibre during the course of manufacture of said manmade fibre a chemical compound which has anti-fungal activity against fungi of at least one of the groups *aspergillus glaucus* and *aspergillus restrictus* and which does not include an acaricide, said incorporating step being accomplished by incorporating said chemical compound into a material from which said manmade fibre is manufactured; and
- (ii) subsequently using said manmade fibre containing said incorporated chemical compound to manufacture a product in which at least one of house dust mites and bed mites typically proliferate selected from bedding, upholstered articles and floor coverings, said product not having an acaricide, whereby, in use, said product has antifungal activity against fungi of at least one of the groups *aspergillus glaucus* and *aspergillus restrictus*, which antifungal activity endures through launderings of the product.

Claim 14-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method according to claim 13, wherein said manmade fibre is an acrylic fibre.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method according to claim 13, wherein said fibre is used in the manufacture of a textile article.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A method according to claim 17, wherein said textile article is a bedding fabric.

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method according to claim 16, wherein said acrylic fibre is a wet spun acrylic fibre.

Claims 21-31 (canceled).

Claim 32 (previously presented): A method according to claim 13, wherein said material from which said manmade fibre is manufactured is a spinning dope.

Claims 33-34 (canceled).

Claim 35 (currently amended): A method for controlling house dust mites and bedmites, comprising the steps of:

- (i) incorporating an antifungal compound into a spinning dope and thereafter manufacturing a manmade fibre from said spinning dope, said antifungal compound having anti-fungal activity against fungi of at least one of the groups *aspergillus glaucus* and *aspergillus restrictus*, said antifungal compound, spinning dope, and manmade fibre not containing an acaricide; and
- (ii) subsequently using said manmade fibre containing said ~~incorporated~~ chemical antifungal compound to manufacture a product not having an acaricide and in which at least one of house dust mites and bed mites typically proliferate selected from bedding, upholstered articles and floor coverings, whereby, in use, said product has antifungal activity against fungi of at least one of the groups *aspergillus glaucus* and *aspergillus restrictus*, which antifungal activity endures through launderings of the product.

Claim 36 (currently amended): A method according to claim 35, wherein said manmade fibre is manufactured such that said manmade fibre has a fissured structure which assists diffusion of said ~~chemical~~ antifungal compound from within said manmade fibre to a surface of said manmade fibre upon depletion of said compound therefrom to provide said product with a long-lasting antifungal effect that endures through launderings of said product.

Claim 37 (canceled).

Claim 38 (previously presented): A method according to claim 35, wherein said manmade fibre is an acrylic fibre.

Claim 39 (previously presented). A method according to claim 38, wherein said acrylic fiber is a wet spun acrylic fibre.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A method according to claim 35, wherein said product is an article of bedding.

Claim 41 (previously presented): A method according to claim 35, wherein said product is an upholstered article.

Claim 42 (previously presented): A method according to claim 35, wherein said fibre is used as a filling material for the product.

Claim 43 (previously presented): A method according to claim 35, wherein said product is a floor covering.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A method according to claim 35, wherein said compound is selected from a group consisting of tolnaftate, bifonazole, clotrimazole, miconazole, dichlorophene, hexachlorophene and triclosan.

Claim 45 (previously presented): A method according to claim 44, wherein an amount of said compound incorporated into said fibre is within the range of 0.01 to 2 percent by weight of the fibre.

Claim 46 (currently amended): A method according to claim 36, further comprising the step of preventing, with said ~~chemical~~ antifungal compound, dead skin fragments on an article of bedding from being converted into a suitable house dust mite and bed mite food source.

Claim 47 (new): A method for controlling house dust mites and bedmites, comprising the steps of:

incorporating tolnaftate into a spinning dope and thereafter manufacturing an acrylic fibre therefrom such that the acrylic fibre contains 0.01 to 2% by weight of tolnaftate and does not contain an acaricide;
subsequently using the acrylic fibre to manufacture a bedding product that does not contain an acaricide and that is of a type in which at least one of house dust mites and bed mites typically proliferate, the acrylic fibre being manufactured such that the fibre has a fissured structure which assists diffusion of tolnaftate from within the fibre to a surface of the fibre upon

depletion of tolnaftate therefrom to provide the product with a long-lasting antifungal effect that endures through launderings of the product; and preventing dead skin fragments on the bedding product from being converted into a suitable house dust mite and bed mite food source since the acrylic fibre of the product has antifungal activity against fungi of at least one of the groups *aspergillus glaucus* and *aspergillus restrictus*.